

CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

1. (Currently Amended) An anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody which ~~reacts~~ binds with abnormal type prion but does not substantially ~~react~~ bind with normal type prion by antigen-antibody reaction, or an antigen-binding fragment thereof, which is originated from an animal immunized with an immunogen including a peptide consisting essentially of a plurality of regions in said abnormal type prion, which regions are discontinuous with each other in the primary amino acid sequence of said abnormal type prion, and which regions are ligated to each other in said peptide.

2. (Currently Amended) The monoclonal antibody or the antigen-binding fragment thereof according to claim 1, which ~~reacts~~ binds with said abnormal type prion and does not substantially ~~react~~ bind with said normal type prion in immunohistostaining.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently Amended) The monoclonal antibody or the antigen-binding fragment thereof according to claim 1, originated from an animal immunized with ~~and~~ an immunogen comprising a carrier and a peptide ~~having~~ comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

5. (Original) A monoclonal antibody or the antigen-binding fragment thereof, which is produced by hybridoma EBEB4C3Ebb (FERM BP-7808).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) A hybridoma which produces the monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 or 5.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~measuring~~ detecting or quantifying abnormal type prion by an immunoassay utilizing said antigen-antibody reaction between said monoclonal antibody ~~according to defined in~~ claim 1 or 5, and an abnormal type prion.

9. (Currently Amended) An immunoassay kit, ~~for carrying out the method of claim 8,~~ comprising the monoclonal antibody or the antigen-binding fragment thereof ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 6~~ defined in claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) A process for producing the anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody ~~according to~~ defined in claim 1, comprising immunizing an animal with an immunogen including a peptide consisting essentially of a plurality of

regions in said abnormal type prion, which regions are discontinuous with each ~~each~~ other ~~in~~ in the primary amino acid sequence of said abnormal type prion, and which regions are ligated to each ~~each~~ other in said peptide; preparing hybridomas originated from antibody-producing cells of the immunized animal; screening a hybridoma which produces an anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody which ~~reacts~~ binds with said abnormal type prion by antigen-antibody reaction but does not substantially ~~react~~ bind with said normal type prion by antigen-antibody reaction; and recovering said anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody from said hybridoma selected by said screening.

11. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 10, wherein ~~said immunogen comprises a carrier and said peptide is~~ immobilized on said a carrier.

12. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 10 ~~11~~, wherein said immunogen comprises ~~said carrier and a plurality of kinds of said peptide~~ at least two types of said peptide, said peptides further being immobilized on a carrier.

13. (Original) The process according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein said peptide comprises a region containing at least

two regions selected from the group consisting of E1 region, E2 region, B1 region, B2 region and B3 region.

14. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 10 ~~13~~, wherein said peptide ~~has an~~ comprises the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein said immunogen further comprises ~~a peptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 and a peptide having~~ comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NNO: 2.

16. (Currently Amended) The anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody which ~~was~~ is produced by the process ~~according to~~ defined in claim 10.

17. (Cancelled).

18. (New) An anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody or an antigen-binding fragment thereof according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises at least two regions selected from the group consisting of E1 region, E2 region, B1 region, B2 region and B3 region.

19. (New) The process according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein said peptide comprises a region containing at least two regions selected from the group consisting of E1 region, E2 region, E3 region, B1 region, B2 region and B3 region.

20. (New) An anti-abnormal type prion monoclonal antibody or an antigen-binding fragment thereof according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises at least two regions selected from the group consisting of E1 region, E2 region, E3 region, B1 region, B2 region and B3 region.